

Bill Will Pay for Priorities, Cut the Deficit by \$1.4 Billion By Closing Corporate Tax Loopholes
August 10, 2010

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman Charlie Melancon (LA-03) voted for emergency education funding to save 2,800 public teaching jobs in Louisiana. The Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act (H.R. 1586) will also shore up health care in Louisiana by providing an estimated \$375 million to extend the increased federal match rate for Medicaid (FMAP) for an additional six months, through June 30, 2011.

The bill is fully paid for, in part by closing tax loopholes that encourage corporations to ship American jobs overseas, and will even cut the deficit by \$1.4 billion over 10 years. The Senate passed H.R. 1586 last week, and House passage today sends the funding bill to the President's desk to be signed into law.

“Keeping teachers on the job will mean smaller class sizes and a better education for our children,” said Rep. Melancon. **“With the start of the new school year fast approaching, this bill will make sure Louisiana’s public schools don’t have to lay off teachers because of tightening budgets. School districts will be able to continue moving forward with important education reforms that will give our children a brighter future.”**

Congressman Melancon added, **“This funding boost for Medicaid will not only make sure our most needy families have access to affordable healthcare, it will also free up resources in the state budget to restore some of the painful cuts to health care and education Governor Jindal made this year. I urge the Governor and the state legislature to not waste any time in asking for this federal funding, especially since it is fully paid for and will not increase the deficit.”**

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